

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A computer security system for a computer operatively connected to a data generation device, wherein the data generation device generates an input signal which is received by the computer when connected to the data generation device, the security system comprising, in combination:

a user interface which generates an output signal;

a networking device which receives the input signal from the data generation device when connected with the data generation device; and

a positive disconnect device which selectively prevents operative connection between the networking device and the data generation device when the output signal corresponds to a preselected period of inactivity of the user interface.

2. The computer security system of claim 1 wherein the positive disconnect device is positioned between the networking device and a data transmission device which transmits and receives the input signal and the output signal.

3. The computer security system of claim 2 wherein the data transmission device is a cable modem.

4. The computer security system of claim 2 wherein the data transmission device is a digital subscriber line modem.

5. The computer security system of claim 1 wherein the positive disconnect device is an add-on component attached to the computer so as to be communicatively connected to the networking device and the data generation device.

6. The computer security system of claim 1 further comprising a motherboard controlling several functions of the computer, and the positive disconnect device is integrated into the motherboard.

7. The computer security system of claim 1 wherein the positive disconnect device is incorporated into the networking device.

8. The computer security system of claim 1 wherein the positive disconnect device is incorporated into the data transmission device.

9. The computer security system of claim 1 wherein the networking device is a network interface card.

10. The computer security system of claim 1 wherein the output signal comprises information about activity of the user interface, as well as instructions to be sent to the data generation device.

11. The computer security system of claim 1 further comprising screen saver software which changes an image on a monitor after the preselected period of inactivity

at the user interface so that the image on the monitor is changed at about the same time the connection to the data generation device is prevented.

12. A computer security system which communicatively isolates a computer from a data transmission device operatively connected to the Internet, comprising, in combination:

a user interface which generates an output signal;

a networking device in communication with the data transmission device, wherein the networking device transmits the output signal from the user interface and receives an input signal from the Internet through the data transmission device; and

a positive disconnect device which selectively prevents communication between the networking device and the data transmission device when the output signal corresponds to a preselected period of inactivity at the user interface.

13. The computer security system of claim 12 wherein the input signal comprises a number of signals, and the positive disconnect device comprises a series of relays, with the number of relays corresponding to the number of signals.

14. The computer security system of claim 12 wherein the positive disconnect device comprises at least one relay which in response to a control voltage is shiftable from an open position to a closed condition, and in response to the output signal corresponding to the preselected period of inactivity at the user interface, the control voltage is

1 removed and communication between the networking device and the data transmission
2 device is prevented.

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4 15. The computer security system of claim 12 wherein the positive disconnect device
5 comprises a series of electronic relays and the output signal is a preselected period of
6 inactivity in an Internet connection command in the user interface.

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8 16. The computer security system of claim 12 wherein the user interface comprises a
9 keyboard and a mouse.

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11 17. The computer security system of claim 12 wherein the positive disconnect device
12 is a plug-in attachment which can be operatively connected to a computer.